THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The following is the month-wise production of Cyclohexanone since commencement of production in August, '90:

(in metric tonnes)

August 1990	:	114
September 1990	:	219
October 1990	:	383
November 1990	:	1,095
December 1990	:	298
January 1991	:	1,814
February 1991	:	1,500
March 1991	:	1,831
April 1991	:	010
May 1991	:	NIL
June 1991	:	38
July 1991	:	2,070
August 1991	:	2,092 (upto 22nd)

(b) and (c). Cyclohexanone is an intermediate in the manufacture of Caprolactam and is intended for captive use for this purpose and not for sale to other users. Only when there is an excess stock of Cyclohexanone due to interruptions in the downstream Caprolactam Plant, some quantity of Cyclohexanone becomes available for direct sale. The marketing strategy has been adopted keeping in view these conditions, and is being reviewed from time to time.

The price fixed initially was Rs. 38,575 per tonne net of duty and taxes. This was increased to Rs. 41,325 per tonne in October, 1990. Due to increase in Benzene price, Cyclohexanone price was raised to Rs. 47,000 per tonne of 28th June, 1991 and again after the new Central Budget to Rs. 51,000 per tonne on 5th August, 1991. Due to increase in the price of Benzene, this price has again been raised to Rs. 53,500 per tonne now. The price is the same for both the actual users and dealers.

Reduction in Staff Strength of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation

4911. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to reduce the staff strength of Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No Sir. However, the problem of excess manpower in Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited has been engaging the attention of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Projects of Karnataka pending for Approval

4912. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of projects of Karnataka State which are under the consideration of the Planning Commission;

(b) how long they have been pending with the Planning Commission; and

(c) the time by which they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.